

Selling points:

- Beautiful art book design and reproduction
- Explanatory sidebars linking each cartoon to actual events
- Possibly the very first ever graphic novel about the War on Terror serialized in a mainstream metro daily paper that is written and drawn by a 43-year-old Norwegian-American on Prozac
- Anti-war before anti-war was cool
- Scathing, irreverent satire sparing no one, including the reader
- Challenges the reader to rethink our conventional wisdom
- Timely
- Creative teaching resource
- Offers great stock tips when accurately decoded



"Kirk Anderson is an outrageously bold and talented cartoonist." *Banana Republic* "entertained me hugely... a hilarious education in recent history."

— Howard Zinn, historian and author of *A People's History of the United States*

"balls-out bravado... well ahead of the curve"

— David Brauer, *MinnPost.com*, Twin Cities daily

"a sharp-edged, 'Daily Show'-worthy weekly cartoon strip/graphic novel"

— Brian Lambert, *The Rake*, Twin Cities monthly

Author quotes

on the book's main theme:

"When America is threatened, the answer is *more* America, not *less*. *More* freedom, *more* democracy; not fewer liberties, fewer checks and balances. We are, after all, defending these principles, not surrendering them to terrorists."

on torture:

"The America I believe in doesn't debate whether *our* water-boarding is less unconscionable than the Spanish Inquisition's."

on patriotism:

"Senator Pat Roberts summed up our War on Terror-era discomfort with excessive freedom when he said: 'I am a strong supporter of civil liberties, but you have no civil liberties if you are **DEAD!**' *Banana Republic* agrees with a stodgy old corpse from grade school history class on this one. On that whole liberty 'n' death thing, Patrick Henry thundered: 'Give me liberty, or give me death!' And now, in less perilous times, our politicians whimper: 'Take my liberty, if it risks my death!' Tell me, who's the patriot?!"

on our commitment to civil liberties:

"There are far too many Dungeon Democrats and Thumbscrew Republicans who believe in a small and petty America that does not even trust the power of its own ideals. They believe in a meek and cowering America, ready to cut and run from its own values. They see America from behind tinted bullet-proof glass and wonder why everything looks dark. They see America from behind the barrel of a gun and wonder why everyone looks frightened."

on surveillance:

"If you have nothing to hide, you have nothing to fear, we are told. But a child-like faith in central government's omniscient surveillance powers has never been one of America's inspiring gifts to the freedom-craving world. When you have nothing you can hide from your government, you are no longer its citizen, but its subject."

on hope:

"At the cornerstone of *Banana Republic* is the historical fact that America can do better on all these issues. America found a way to deal with detainees humanely, even during a revolution. America found a way to hold elections, even in the maelstrom of civil war. America found a way to try the accused in a court of law, even in the wake of Nazi genocide. Don't ever let anyone tell you America can't handle both liberty and security at the same time."